



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships ERA Fellowships



Dr Marianne da Silva

Unit A2, European Research Agency
(REA)

Bruxelles, 17 Mai 2022

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF): Objectives

Main Objectives:

- Foster excellence through the implementation of a research project
- Enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD (training on transferable skills & career development)
- Focus on i3 (international, inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary) mobility
- Bridges with and exposure to the non-academic sector

Research areas:

- All scientific fields (including Euratom-related areas)

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF): Types of Action

Activities

PF is a mono-beneficiary action to support post-doctoral research and careers with:

- ✓ European Postdoctoral Fellowships coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe
- ✓ Global Postdoctoral Fellowships outside EU Member States and Horizon Europe AC

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF): Participation

- **Participating organisations***

- Legal entity in an EU Member State or HE Associated country

- **Researchers - target groups:**

- any nationality (Global Fellowships: nationals or long-term residents of MS or HE AC)*
- in possession of PhD at the call deadline
- up to 8 years research experience after PhD (with exceptions: career breaks, work outside research, research outside Europe for reintegrating researchers,...)
- mobility rule: not resided / had main activity in the country of the beneficiary (or host organization for GF) more than 12 months in the 36 months before call deadline

* *Specific eligibility criteria for PFs supported by Euratom:*

- *Organisation: legal entity established in an EU Member State or Euratom AC*
- *Researcher: nationals or long-term residents of an EU Member State or a Euratom AC*

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF): Conditions

- **Duration**

- European Fellowships: 12-24 months
- Global Fellowships: 24-36 months (12-24 outgoing phase & 12 months mandatory return phase in Europe)

- **Secondments** *Worldwide*

- **Optional additional placement** *in EU Member States (MS) or Horizon Europe Associated Countries (AC)*

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

Eligible researchers – European Fellowships:

Nationality	Any
Mobility	The researcher cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 12 months in the three years immediately prior to the call deadline
Research experience (FTE)	<p>Maximum 8 years from date of award of the (first) doctoral degree</p> <p>This limit can be extended for the following reasons (to be encoded in the submission forms):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Maternity leave (18 months – i.e. 548 days) per child born after the PhD award date, or exact duration of leave taken, whichever is longest);- Paternity leave (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date);- Research in a non-associated TC (only for nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC, wishing to reintegrate in Europe);- Compulsory national service;- Time spent not working in research (also applies to part-time contracts);- Long-term sick leave (periods longer than 30 days).

Doctoral Degree (or, date of successful defense) should be obtained before call deadline

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

Eligible researchers – Global Fellowships:

Nationality	Nationals or long-term residents of EU MS or HE AC.
Mobility	The researcher cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the associated partner (in the third country) for more than 12 months in the three years immediately prior to the call deadline
Research experience (FTE)	<p>Maximum 8 years from date of award of the (first) doctoral degree</p> <p>This limit can be extended for the following reasons (to be encoded in the submission forms):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Maternity leave (18 months – i.e. 548 days) per child born after the PhD award date, or exact duration of leave taken, whichever is longest);- Paternity leave (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date);- Compulsory national service;- Time spent not working in research;- Long-term sick leave (periods longer than 30 days).

Doctoral Degree (or, date of successful defense) should be obtained before call deadline

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

(Optional) Secondments vs Non-academic placements:

	Secondment		Non-academic placement
Maximum Duration	EF: Up to 1/3 of the requested project duration (excluding any period for non-academic placement)	GF: Up to 1/3 of the duration of the outgoing phase	Up to 6 months duration
Timing	EF: At any time during the requested project duration	GF: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A maximum of three months can be spent at the start of the project at the beneficiary (or associated partners linked to the beneficiary)- This period of three months will be considered as part of the outgoing phase- Secondments cannot take place during the mandatory twelve-month return period to the host organization in EU MS/AC	Additional period after the requested duration of the fellowship
	Can be divided in several smaller periods		
Mobility	Any country <i>worldwide</i>		EU MS or HE AC
Sector	Any sector		Non-academic sector only
Encoding in part A	Yes. In “Call Specific Questions” - complete all required information.		Yes. The associated partner must be encoded as a participating organisation
Description in part B1	Yes. Its relevance and quality will be assessed by the evaluators.		Yes. Its relevance and quality will be assessed by the evaluators.
Supporting Doc in part B2	None.		Yes. A letter of commitment is required.

ERA Fellowships

- Widening activities: “ERA Fellowships”
- **No separate application or evaluation** – integral part of the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call application form
- For specific countries – available in Work Programme
 - Only for European Fellowships, Global Fellowships do not qualify
 - **Attention:** *“call specific question” to be completed in the PF submission for EF to indicate willingness to participate in this call (only if host organisation is a qualifying country)*
 - Only proposals scoring over 70% in the PF call will be considered
 - Timing aligned with PF call

Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and all Associated Countries with equivalent characteristics in terms of R&I performance (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo 2, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Morocco, Tunisia, Ukraine, Faroe Islands) and the Outermost Regions (defined in Art. 349 TFEU).

Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Réunion, Martinique, Mayotte and Saint Martin (France)

EURATOM

- Aiming to enhance nuclear expertise and excellence as well as synergies between Programmes, organisations active in nuclear research established in one of EU Member States or countries associated to the Euratom Research and Training programme 2021-2025, are eligible to participate.
- MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships in this area of research will be supported by the Euratom Research and Training Programme 2021-2025 through an indicative annual financial contribution of **EUR 1 million** to the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call .

Evaluation and award criteria

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan , assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including <i>interdisciplinary</i> approaches, consideration of the <i>gender</i> dimension and other <i>diversity</i> aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of <i>open science</i> practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations , including hosting arrangements
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
Quality and appropriateness of the researcher's professional experience , competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%



Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 Call

Call planning

Call Opening:	12 May 2022
Call Deadline:	14 September 2022
Evaluation period:	October 2022 – January 2023
Launch Grant preparation:	February 2023
Project Starting dates:	March 2023 - September 2024

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 Call

Modes & Budget

EF

**European
Fellowships**

*Held in EU Member States or Associated
Countries*

218.45 M€

GF

**Global
Fellowships**

Based on a Third Country

38.55 M€

Total Budget: 257 million €

ERA Fellowships 2022 Call

Modes & Budget

ERA

ERA
Fellowships

Held in a 'Widening' country

Total Budget: 8 million € (indicative)

- Proposals are eligible for ERA fellowships funding if:
 - submitted by a host institution from a 'Widening' country
 - admissible and eligible for MSCA-PF European Fellowships (EF)
 - have agreed to be considered for ERA Fellowships call
 - passed all the thresholds under the MSCA-PF-EF call
 - failed to reach an adequate place in the ranking to be funded under that call.

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 Call

Novelties

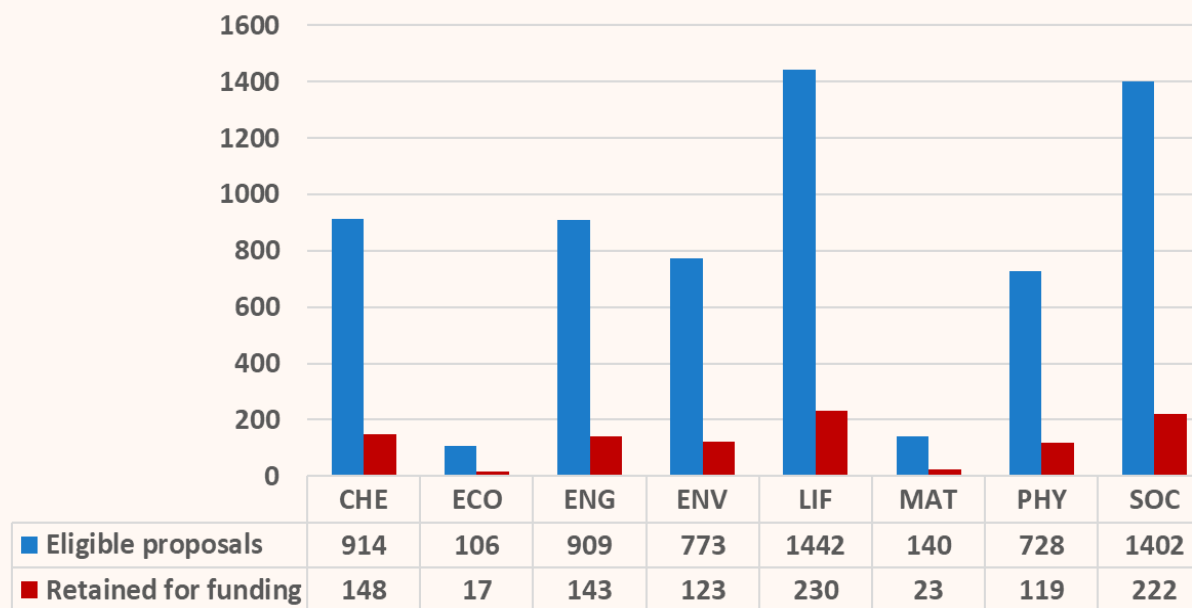
- Resubmissions
 - Proposals involving the same host organisation (and for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships also the same associated partner hosting the outgoing phase) and the same individual researcher submitted to the PF 2021 call and having received a score of less than 70% must not be resubmitted
- Non-academic placements
 - If the placement does not meet the requirements (missing letter of commitment or taking place in an academic organisation or in a Third Country), the proposal will be evaluated without taking into account the non-academic placement. This might affect the final score.
- Secondments Vs Non-academic placements
 - Better guidance and instructions on how to properly encode this information in the submission forms

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2021 Call

Results - EF

Action	Eligible proposals	Main list
PF-EF	7439	1025
Grand total	8247	1156

Panel	Success rate EF
CHE	13,94%
ECO	13,82%
ENG	13,59%
ENV	13,73%
LIF	13,76%
MAT	14,11%
PHY	14,05%
SOC	13,67%
Grand Total	13,78%

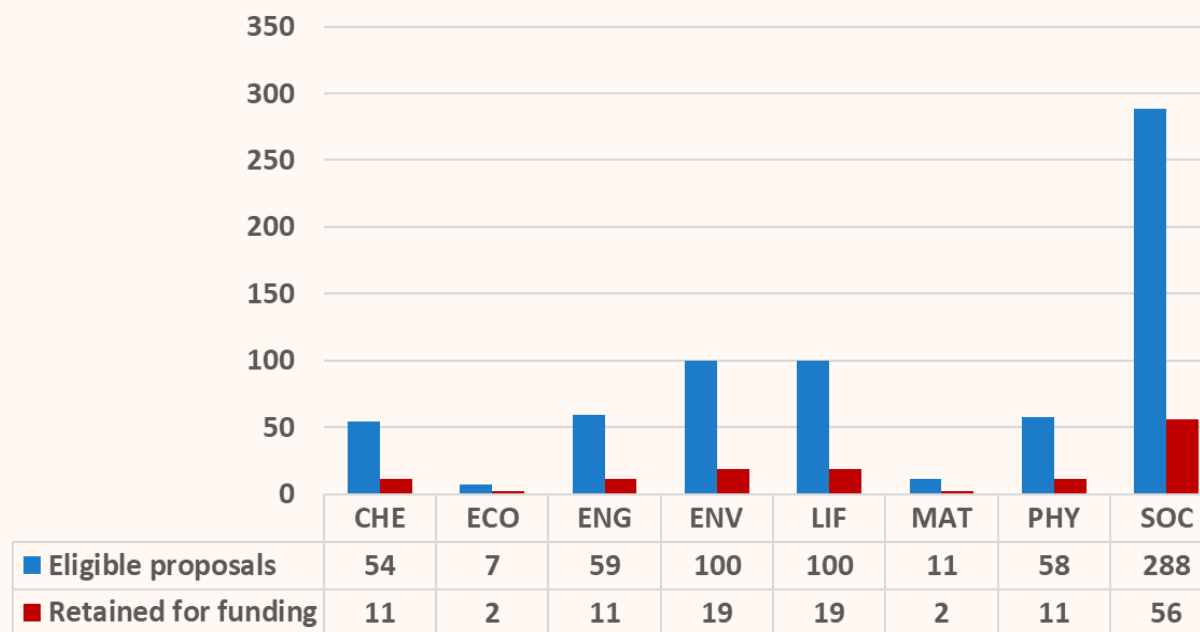


Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2021 Call

Results - GF

Action	Eligible proposals	Main list
PF-GF	808	131
Grand total	8247	1156

Panel	Success rate GF
CHE	16,92%
ECO	22,22%
ENG	15,71%
ENV	15,97%
LIF	15,97%
MAT	15,38%
PHY	15,94%
SOC	16,28%
Grand Total	16,21%

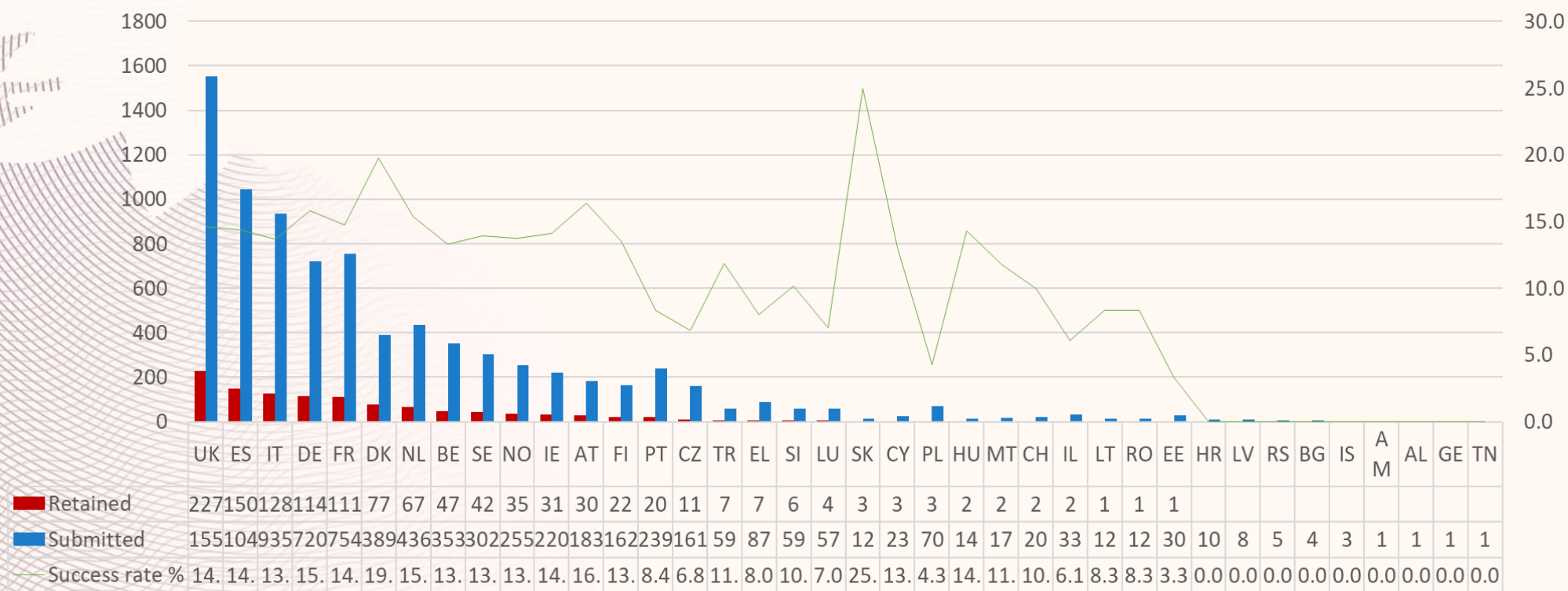


Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2021 Call

MSCA-PF-2021: Cumulative percentage of proposals above threshold, with a given score or higher (funding range marked in green)																
Number of eligible proposals	1062 proposals	123 proposals	1052 proposals	896 proposals	1672 proposals	163 proposals	847 proposals	1624 proposals	65 proposals	9 proposals	70 proposals	119 proposals	119 proposals	13 proposals	69 proposals	344 proposals
Cut off score for funding*	92,8	92,0	92,8	93,6	94,4	92,4	92,2	93,6	92,0	83,8	95,0	95,8	95,8	92,0	94,2	92,8
Score equal to or above	EF-CHE	EF-ECO	EF-ENG	EF-ENV	EF-LIF	EF-MAT	EF-PHY	EF-SOC	GF-CHE	GF-ECO	GF-ENG	GF-ENV	GF-LIF	GF-MAT	GF-PHY	GF-SOC
100	0,38%	0,00%	1,05%	0,56%	0,66%	1,84%	0,12%	0,92%	1,54%	0,00%	1,43%	0,84%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,58%
99	1,41%	0,00%	1,43%	1,34%	1,50%	3,68%	0,71%	1,91%	1,54%	0,00%	2,86%	3,36%	2,52%	0,00%	1,45%	2,03%
98	3,39%	0,81%	3,23%	3,01%	3,95%	4,29%	2,01%	3,88%	1,54%	0,00%	8,57%	7,56%	5,04%	7,69%	1,45%	4,36%
97	5,08%	3,25%	4,75%	5,47%	6,22%	7,36%	2,72%	5,79%	3,08%	0,00%	10,00%	9,24%	10,08%	7,69%	2,90%	6,40%
96	7,53%	6,50%	6,75%	7,25%	9,15%	8,56%	4,13%	8,25%	6,15%	0,00%	14,29%	14,29%	15,13%	7,69%	2,90%	9,30%
95	9,23%	6,50%	9,32%	9,82%	11,66%	9,20%	6,73%	10,65%	6,15%	0,00%	15,71%	21,85%	18,46%	7,69%	7,25%	11,34%
94	11,02%	8,13%	11,60%	12,61%	15,31%	9,82%	9,21%	12,97%	7,69%	0,00%	18,57%	25,21%	21,85%	7,69%	17,39%	13,95%
93	13,65%	10,57%	13,50%	16,07%	19,08%	12,88%	11,92%	15,83%	13,85%	0,00%	24,29%	27,73%	26,89%	7,69%	23,19%	15,99%
92	16,10%	15,45%	15,68%	19,98%	22,13%	15,34%	14,76%	18,90%	16,92%	11,11%	30,00%	31,93%	31,09%	15,38%	27,54%	17,44%
91	18,83%	16,26%	18,54%	23,44%	24,58%	17,79%	18,06%	21,80%	24,62%	11,11%	32,86%	33,61%	32,77%	15,38%	36,23%	21,22%
90	20,90%	16,26%	20,44%	27,34%	27,63%	22,70%	21,61%	23,95%	30,77%	11,11%	37,14%	36,13%	35,29%	15,38%	43,48%	22,67%
89	23,73%	17,89%	22,43%	29,91%	31,04%	28,22%	25,62%	26,29%	33,85%	11,11%	38,57%	39,50%	39,50%	15,38%	46,38%	25,87%
88	26,18%	18,70%	24,81%	32,48%	33,79%	29,45%	29,16%	28,45%	36,92%	11,11%	40,00%	42,86%	43,70%	23,08%	50,72%	29,07%
87	28,15%	23,58%	27,47%	35,94%	36,78%	32,52%	32,35%	30,85%	38,46%	11,11%	41,43%	46,22%	44,54%	30,77%	50,72%	31,10%
86	31,73%	25,20%	30,42%	39,17%	39,29%	36,20%	34,12%	32,82%	40,00%	11,11%	45,71%	51,26%	45,38%	38,46%	52,17%	32,56%
85	34,46%	27,64%	32,70%	41,52%	41,93%	38,65%	38,72%	34,85%	44,62%	11,11%	48,57%	53,78%	47,90%	53,85%	60,87%	35,76%
84	37,29%	31,71%	34,89%	44,08%	45,16%	42,94%	42,15%	37,32%	50,77%	11,11%	51,43%	57,98%	49,58%	53,85%	62,32%	37,21%
83	40,30%	33,33%	36,88%	45,76%	47,73%	45,40%	45,57%	39,66%	52,31%	22,22%	55,71%	60,50%	52,94%	53,85%	66,67%	40,12%
82	44,16%	36,59%	39,26%	49,55%	50,30%	47,85%	49,23%	42,36%	56,92%	22,22%	57,14%	64,71%	54,62%	61,54%	66,67%	43,60%
81	46,89%	39,84%	42,21%	53,46%	53,23%	53,99%	52,54%	45,38%	60,00%	22,22%	57,14%	66,39%	62,18%	61,54%	68,12%	46,80%
80	49,62%	44,72%	43,82%	56,81%	55,68%	55,21%	55,73%	47,17%	60,00%	33,33%	58,57%	68,91%	68,07%	61,54%	72,46%	49,13%
79	52,92%	47,15%	47,15%	58,26%	58,37%	59,51%	58,80%	49,88%	60,00%	44,44%	62,86%	70,59%	69,75%	61,54%	73,91%	50,87%
78	56,03%	49,59%	48,95%	60,83%	61,18%	61,96%	61,39%	52,22%	60,00%	55,56%	64,29%	73,11%	70,59%	76,92%	75,36%	53,20%
77	59,23%	52,03%	50,86%	62,72%	64,35%	66,26%	64,58%	54,68%	63,08%	55,56%	67,14%	77,31%	73,95%	76,92%	79,71%	55,52%
76	62,24%	54,47%	52,95%	64,73%	67,17%	67,48%	66,71%	56,85%	64,62%	55,56%	71,43%	79,83%	75,63%	76,92%	81,16%	57,56%
75	63,75%	56,10%	55,13%	66,74%	69,20%	71,78%	68,71%	59,11%	64,62%	55,56%	72,86%	80,87%	78,47%	84,62%	82,61%	59,59%
74	65,82%	59,35%	57,32%	67,86%	70,93%	73,01%	70,96%	60,78%	69,23%	55,56%	74,29%	82,35%	77,31%	84,62%	82,61%	61,34%
73	67,89%	61,79%	59,41%	69,08%	72,19%	74,23%	73,67%	62,68%	70,77%	55,56%	78,57%	83,19%	79,83%	84,62%	84,06%	63,08%
72	69,77%	62,60%	61,69%	70,76%	73,86%	76,07%	75,80%	64,22%	72,31%	66,67%	80,00%	83,19%	81,51%	84,62%	86,96%	65,70%
71	71,94%	65,85%	63,78%	72,21%	75,42%	77,91%	77,69%	65,52%	75,38%	66,67%	81,43%	84,87%	84,03%	84,62%	88,41%	66,28%
70	74,11%	68,29%	65,40%	74,44%	77,27%	79,75%	79,46%	67,67%	76,92%	66,67%	82,86%	87,39%	85,71%	84,62%	88,41%	69,77%
Percentage of proposals below threshold (<70)	25,89%	31,71%	34,60%	25,56%	22,73%	20,25%	20,54%	32,33%	23,08%	33,33%	17,14%	12,61%	14,29%	15,38%	11,59%	30,23%

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2021 Call

Success rate per country

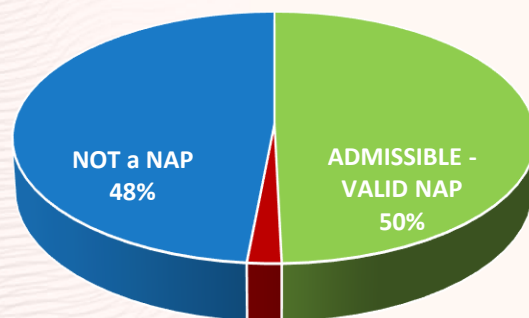


Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2021 Call

Non-academic placements (NAPs)

627 proposals requested a non-academic placement (7.50% of total)

- 50% of them were declared as ineligible/inadmissible
- 64 proposals including NAPs were funded (success rate of ~20%)



INADMISSIBLE NAP
2%

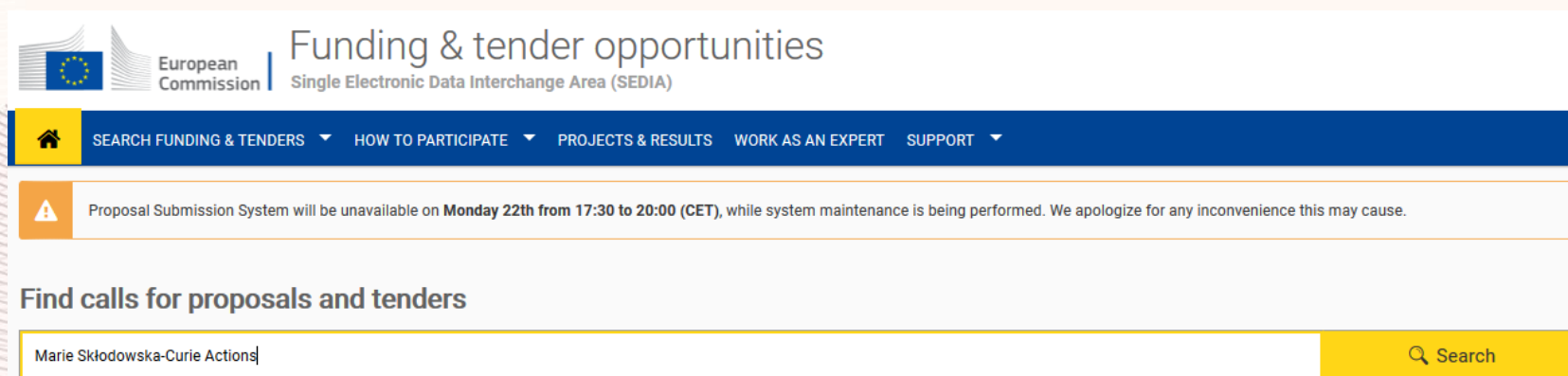
Admissible NAP: respecting all admissibility rules

Inadmissible NAP: Letter of Commitment missing, wrong duration, and/or wrong host country

Not a NAP: wrongly encoded secondment

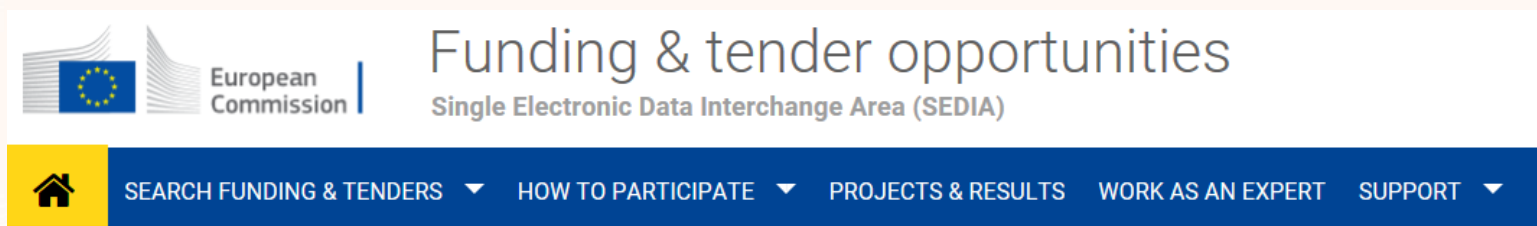
How to apply?

- All calls are published on the [Funding and Tender Portal](#)
- Applications are submitted through the portal:



The screenshot displays the 'Funding & tender opportunities' portal under the 'Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)'. The header includes the European Commission logo and a navigation bar with links: SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS, HOW TO PARTICIPATE, PROJECTS & RESULTS, WORK AS AN EXPERT, and SUPPORT. A yellow notification banner states: 'Proposal Submission System will be unavailable on Monday 22th from 17:30 to 20:00 (CET), while system maintenance is being performed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.' Below this, the section 'Find calls for proposals and tenders' features a search bar containing 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions' and a yellow 'Search' button.

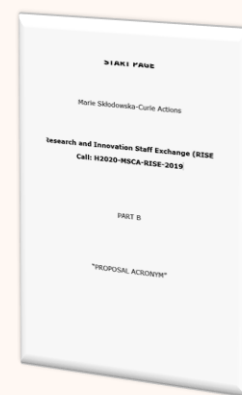
How to apply?



Part A (structured data)

This image shows a screenshot of a proposal submission form, specifically the 'General information' section. The form is titled 'Horizon 2020' and includes fields for 'Call: H2020-MSCA-RISE-2019', 'Topic: MSCA-RISE', 'Type of action: MSCA-RISE', 'Proposal number', 'Proposal title', and 'Deadline ID: H2020-MSCA-RISE-2019'. A 'new' badge is visible next to the 'Proposal number' field. Below the form, there is a table with columns for 'Action' and 'Title'. The table contains several rows of data, including 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions', 'Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)', and 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions'.

Part B (description of action)



**10 page
limit**

Proposal submission – Part A

Key features:



A Guide on “How to complete Part A within the submission forms” is under preparation

Part A: use of submission wizard

Researcher information:

- PhD award date only, no other qualification fields available
- Residency and activity table
- Table for extensions on the 8-year post PhD limit – number of days/category only, beneficiary to keep relevant records

Beneficiary information:

- PIC based: same principle as H2020
- Non-academic placement host and secondment host

A document, and a corresponding Self-assessment tool, aim to guide the applicants towards calculating the possible deductions of their 8 years FTE experience in research

Budget:

- Family allowance (selection box as H2020)
- Long term leave allowance and special needs allowance (not visible in proposal as cannot be requested at that stage)

Proposal submission – Part A

Key features:

Call specific questions (non-exhaustive)

- Euratom: applicant to confirm if they qualify for the Euratom topics/conditions
- **ERA Fellowships**: applicant to confirm if they wish to be considered for ERA call (question appears based on qualifying PIC country)
- Secondment information
- Optional non academic placement information

Keywords are updated for HE

- main principle remains: KW's 1, 2 mandatory and of selected scientific panel, KW 3 mandatory and of any panel, KW's 4 and 5 optional and of any panel

Resubmissions

- Question will appear in the forms

Proposal Submission- Part B

Important:

- **Part B-1 is strictly restricted to 10 pages.**
 - a cover page, table of contents, ...on page 1, 2, will count towards the page limit and automatically result in excess pages that cannot be evaluated
 - the Part B-1 should start with “1. Excellence” (instructions, definitions to be deleted before submission)
- **Part B-2 (no page restriction):**
 - Researcher’s CV
 - Participating organisations (max 1 page for beneficiary, max ½ page others)
 - Letters of commitment (host for outgoing phase of GF or non-academic placement host)
 - Ethics & Security (additional info, if needed)

Resources and guidance

Read all guidance documents:

- Guide for applicants: overview of rules, financial aspects, etc.
- MSCA Work Programme and annexes
- Calculation of 8-years research experience in Postdoctoral Fellowships
- How to complete Part A within the submission forms (under preparation)
- Proposal templates
- Model Grant Agreements
- Online manual on how to submit an application
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Guidelines on Supervision: <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/508311>
- Green Charter: <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/720690>

Ask for advice to your MSCA National Contact Point (list available on Funding and Tenders Portal)

Submit specific queries to the Research Enquiry Service (funding, validation of participants, etc.)

Resources and guidance



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Website

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en

Research Enquiry Service

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service_en

National Contact Points

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

Funding and Tenders Portal (applications)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen>



HorizonEU #MSCA @MSCAactions

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>



© European Union 2021

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. Image sources: [istockphoto.com/Unsplash](https://www.istockphoto.com/)

